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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/839,767	04/20/2001	Joachim Held	GR 00 P 1781	2019

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EXAMINER

LE, DINH THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2816

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/839,767

Applicant(s)

HELD ET AL.

Examiner

DINH T. LE

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8 and 10-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed. PL
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8 and 10-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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NON-FINAL REJECTION

The rejection over Frech et al (US 6,043,724) is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 8 and 10-17 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kubinec (US 6,192,069) in view of Ikuta et al (US 5,789,797).

Kubinec discloses an integrated circuit in Figures 2-3(a) comprising:

- lines including a first line (VCC) and a second line (ground), for carrying one of DC voltages and low-frequency voltages;
- a plurality of radio-frequency (RF) low pass filter (202, 212), each having a first capacitor (304) and a resistor (302) as shown in Figure 3a. The filter is connected to said lines and completely integrated in the integrated circuit for preventing and restricting a propagation of high-frequency interference signals which is higher than the DC signal through said lines;
- a plurality of component parts (206, 216), each being connected to the lines and to be protected against high-frequency interference signals, said RF filters (202, 210) being disposed and constructed and dimensioned such that said RF filter device filters out the high-frequency

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interference signals higher than DC signal transmitted through said lines and fed to said component parts.

However, Kubinec does not disclose that each filter has a second capacitor. Ikuta et al teaches in figure 4 a low pass filter including a second capacitor (C1) for forming a second order low pass filter which offers a fast roll-off region after the cut-off point so that the unwanted signals above the cut-off point of the filter would be highly attenuated.

It would have been obvious to a person having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the second order filter (second capacitor) taught by Ikuta et al in the circuit of Kubinec for the purpose of forming a second order low pass filter so that high frequency unwanted signals above the cut-off point of the filter would be highly attenuated.

Noted that, the skilled artisan realizes that the resistance value of the resistors (302) and the capacitance value of the capacitor (304) determine the frequency characteristics of Kubinec's filters such as the cut-off frequency, the passband frequency or the corner frequency. Since the frequency characteristics of the modified filter must be accommodated with a particular environment or the application in which the modified filter is to be used, selecting the resistance value and the capacitance value of Kubinec to have a predetermined frequency characteristics is considered to be a matter of a design expedient for an engineer and that would have been obvious at the time of the invention.

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Response to Applicant's Arguments

The applicant's argues that the filter of Frech does not have a second capacitor. The argument is persuasive. However, this limitation is disclosed in the Ikuta et al reference as discussed above.


CONCLUSION

Any comments considered necessarily by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dinh Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-1745. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:00 A.M.to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached on (703) 308-4876. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


DINH T. LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER